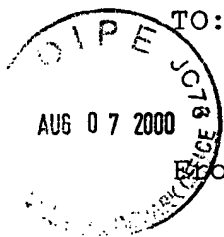


MSLIN98-002C  
Serial Number 09/251,183



TO: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

From : George O. Saile (Reg. No. 19,572)  
20 McIntosh Drive  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

*10/ Pre.*  
*Amatt. B*  
**RECEIVED**  
*Shuusa*  
AUG - 9 2000  
8-10-00  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

SUBJECT: Continuation Prosecution Application of  
Serial # : 09/251,183  
File Date : 2/17/1999  
Inventor : M.S.Lin  
Examiner : J. Garcia  
Art Unit : 2823  
Title : Top Layers of Metal For High  
Performance ICs

#### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This is in response to the final office action dated April 25, 2000. A Continued Patent Application for the above referenced application has been filed. Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment for the above referenced application.

#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal service as First Class mail in an envelop addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on *Aug. 7*, 2000

Signature *George O. Saile*  
George O. Saile (Reg. No 19,572)

Date *Aug. 7, 2000*